Community Views of Criminal Justice
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Sucker or Lolipop?
What shapes your perceptions?

People have a unique perspective on things based on their perceptions and experiences

Project Goals
The Community Views of Criminal Justice Project seeks to accurately capture what factor into various local groups’ perceptions of policing and the criminal justice system.

Group Type | Description
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Neighborhood | Neighborhood and business associations, community organizing groups
Youth | Young people and staff at organizations
Reentry | People in reentry and staff at organizations
Community | Reform-oriented/activist groups and participants in low-income programs
Police-citizen | Police-Citizen Interaction Committee (PCIC), Police And Citizens Together Against Crime (PAC-TAC), Neighborhood Watch

Project Goals
Fairness in Policing
The Police in my community are generally fair in the way they enforce the law? (n=110)

- Strongly Agree: 43%
- Agree: 37%
- Disagree: 14%
- Strongly Disagree: 6%

This chart lists views by individual participant surveys

Fairness in the System
The Criminal Justice System generally treats people fairly? (n=99)

- Strongly Agree: 67%
- Agree: 22%
- Disagree: 12%

This chart lists views by individual participant surveys

Methodology
Group Feedback Analysis:
Combines traditional survey and focus group discussion.

Step 1: Survey questions.
Step 2: Display polled results.
Step 3: Guided group discussion.

Factors in Perceptions
Need more positive interactions from police with the community. It is easy to mistreat a community you do not know.

Parole, police, court, probation, all work together and people with records are seen as a different team.

Youth
Feels like police listen to what you have to say but do not act.

We sometimes expect police to do things that aren’t in their job description.

Re-entry
Police should find common ground with residents, there are residents who care and understand where police are coming from.

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